

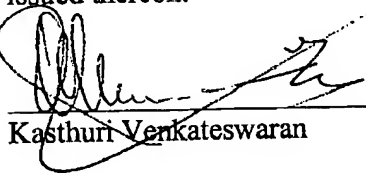


DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

We, Kasthuri Venkateswaran, of 846, Palo Alto Dr., Arcadia, California 91007, and Myron La Duc of 1110 Mayflower Ave., Arcadia, California 91006, do hereby declare that we invented the subject matter of Patent Application No. 10/759,327 (hereinafter '327) at least as early as the date of May 19, 2002 and by acts undertaken wholly in the United States of America, have diligently pursued this invention with the purpose of its reduction to practice or until the filing date of January 17, 2003.

The reference cited, entitled, "Characterization of microbes intimately associated with Mars Odyssey Orbiter and it's assembly facility," was authored by La Duc, M. T.; Kempf M. J.; Kern R. G.; and Venkateswaran K. J. Kempf M. J. and Kern R.G. did not participate in the claimed subject matter of Patent Application '327.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


Kasthuri Venkateswaran
Date Myron La Duc7/6/05
Date